

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1 1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023



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# URGENT LEGAL MATTER -- PROMPT REPLY NECESSARY CERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 5, 2003

Waterbury Realty, LLC c/o David Holand, Registered Agent 730 North Main Street Waterbury, CT 06704

Re: NOTICE OF POTENTIAL LIABILITY AND INVITATION TO PERFORM OR FINANCE PROPOSED CLEANUP ACTIVITIES

EPAC Superfund Site, Waterbury, New Haven County, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Holand:

This letter serves to notify Waterbury Realty, LLC of potential liability regarding the EPAC Site ("Site"), Waterbury, Connecticut, as defined by Section 107(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). This letter also notifies you of forthcoming removal activities at the Site which Waterbury Realty, LLC is invited to perform or finance and which it may be ordered to perform at a later date.

#### **NOTICE OF POTENTIAL LIABILITY**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has documented the release or threatened release of hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants at the Site, which is located at 730 North Main Street, Waterbury, Connecticut (parcel number 0237-0166-0024), Latitude 41° 33' 44" North, Longitude 73° 01' 54" West. The Site is bounded by commercial properties to the north, residential properties and the Naugatuck River to the east, residential properties to the south, and residential neighborhood and Martin Luther King Jr. Park to the west.

Hazardous substances involved in the release or threat of release at the Site include, but are not limited to, friable asbestos, PCB-contaminated oils, and containers of hazardous waste. EPA has spent or is considering spending public funds on actions to investigate and control such releases or threatened releases at the Site. Unless a potentially responsible party ("PRP") or parties commit to properly performing or financing such actions, EPA may perform these actions pursuant to Section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604.

Under Sections 106(a) and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(a) and 9607(a), Section 7003 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 6973, and other laws, liable parties may be obligated to implement response actions deemed necessary by EPA to protect public health, welfare, or the environment and may be liable for all costs incurred by the Government in responding to any release or threatened release at the Site. Such actions and costs may include, but are not limited to, expenditures for investigations, planning, response, oversight, and enforcement activities.

Responsible parties under CERCLA include current and former owners and operators of the Site, persons who arranged for disposal or treatment of hazardous substances found at the Site (often called "generators"), and persons who accepted hazardous substances for transport to the Site (often called "transporters").

EPA has evaluated evidence gathered during investigations of the Site. <u>Based on this evidence</u>, <u>EPA has information indicating that you are a potentially responsible party</u> under Section 107(a) of CERCLA with respect to the Site. Specifically, EPA has reason to believe that Waterbury Realty, LLC is the owner of the Site. By this letter, EPA notifies Waterbury Realty, LLC of your potential liability and urges you to voluntarily perform or finance those response activities that EPA determines are necessary at the Site.

### **OUTLINE OF SITE RESPONSE ACTIVITIES**

In accordance with CERCLA and other authorities, EPA has undertaken certain actions and incurred certain costs in response to conditions at the Site. These response actions have included conducting site assessments and sampling as well as other investigations which have revealed the presence of hazardous substances at the Site.

Due to the presence of hazardous substances at the Site, and in light of other conditions, EPA has determined that there may be an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment. In response, EPA is planning to conduct the following immediate removal activities at the Site: 1) remove friable asbestos from the boiler and that which is intermingled with debris; 2) remove PCB oils from transformers, capacitors, and drums; 3) analysis of the contents of deteriorating drums and containers intermingled with debris; and, 4) overpack, stage, and dispose of the asbestos, PCB oils, contaminated soils and containers at an EPA-approved disposal facility. EPA anticipates the removal activities will take 4 months to complete.

#### **INVITATION TO PERFORM SITE RESPONSE ACTIVITIES**

Before EPA spends additional public funds to undertake a removal action at the Site, EPA urges Waterbury Realty, LLC to voluntarily perform or finance the removal activities outlined above.

Any such work performed by Waterbury Realty, LLC in its capacity as a PRP must be conducted pursuant to an administrative order and an EPA-approved workplan as authorized by Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606(a). Prior to final issuance of such an order, a draft order will be sent to you or your representative for review and comment. Enclosed herewith is a copy of a summary of a generic Scope of Work.

This document should provide Waterbury Realty, LLC with an understanding of the types of plans and activities typically required by such an order.

Be advised that even if Waterbury Realty, LLC does not indicate a willingness to perform or finance necessary response actions, <u>EPA may order Waterbury Realty</u>, <u>LLC to undertake such actions</u> under Section 106 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606. Failure to comply with a Section 106(a) administrative order may result in a fine of up to \$27,500 per day under Section 106(b) or imposition of treble damages under Section 107(c)(3) of CERCLA. Further, Waterbury Realty, LLC may be held liable under Section 107(a) for the cost of the response activities EPA performs at the Site and for any damages to natural resources. In addition, by virtue of Section 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613, other PRPs who agree to perform the necessary response action may seek contribution protection.

# PRP RESPONSE AND EPA CONTACT

You should contact EPA within ten (10) business days after receipt of this letter to indicate your willingness to perform or finance the response activities outlined above. If EPA does not receive a response within that time, EPA will assume that you do not wish to negotiate a resolution of your liabilities in connection with the response and that you have declined any involvement in performing response activities. Be advised, however, that liability under CERCLA is joint and several; therefore, each PRP is potentially liable for undertaking all response actions or reimbursing the Government for the entire amount of its response costs.

Please provide the name, address, and telephone number of a designated contact for future communications. Your written response, including any technical comments or questions concerning the proposed response activities, should be directed to the EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) for the Site:

Leslie Sims
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Environmental Planning and Response Branch
1 Congress Street Suite 1100, Mail Code HBR
Boston, MA 02114-2023
(617) 918-1235

Legal questions and all communications from counsel should be directed to:

Cynthia A. Lewis
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Environmental Stewardship
1 Congress Street Suite 1100, Mail Code SES
Boston, Massachusetts 02203
(617) 918-1889

#### **DECISION NOT TO USE SPECIAL NOTICE**

Under Section 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(e), EPA has the discretionary authority to invoke special notice procedures to formally negotiate the terms of an agreement between EPA and PRPs to conduct or finance response activities. The use of special notice procedures triggers a moratorium on certain EPA activities at the Site while formal negotiations between EPA and the PRPs are conducted.

Due to the exigencies posed by conditions present at the Site, removal activities must be conducted as expeditiously as possible. EPA has therefore decided not to invoke the Section 122(e) special notice procedures with respect to CERCLA removal actions at this Site. Nonetheless, EPA is willing to discuss settlement opportunities without invoking a moratorium, but will initiate the response action as planned if such discussions do not lead to settlement expeditiously.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Pursuant to Section 113(k) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(k), EPA will establish an administrative record containing documents that form the basis of EPA's decision on the selection of response actions for the Site. The administrative record files may be inspected and comments may be submitted by contacting the OSC for the Site.

The Administrative Record Files with corresponding index should be available for inspection at a repository near the Site within sixty (60) days of initiation of on-site removal activities.

# **SITE ACTIVITY OUTSIDE EPA ACTIONS**

If Waterbury Realty, LLC is already involved in discussions with state or other local authorities or involved in a lawsuit regarding this Site, it should continue such activities as it sees fit. This letter is not intended to advise or direct Waterbury Realty, LLC to restrict or discontinue any such activities. However, you are advised to report the status of any such discussions or actions in your response to this letter and to provide a copy of your response to any other parties involved in those discussions or actions.

# **CONSENT TO ACCESS**

EPA requests access to your property, the Site, to perform or oversee the response actions discussed above. This request is enclosed.

# PURPOSE AND USE OF THIS NOTICE LETTER

The factual and legal discussions contained in this letter are intended solely to provide notice and information. Such discussions are not intended to be, and cannot be, relied upon as EPA's final position on any matter set forth herein.

Due to the seriousness of the environmental and legal problems posed by conditions at the Site, EPA urges that Waterbury Realty, LLC give immediate attention and provide a prompt response to this letter.

By copy of this letter EPA is notifying the State of Connecticut and the Natural Resources Trustees of EPA's intent to perform, or to enter into negotiations for the performance or financing of, response actions at the Site.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely

Arthur V. Johnson, III, Chief

Emergency Planning and Response Branch

Enclosure (s)

cc: Leslie Sims, EPA On-Scene Coordinator - OSRR/EPRB

Sharon Fennelly, EPA Enforcement Coordinator - OSRR

Holly Inglis, EPA Administrative Records Coordinator - OSRR

Cynthia A. Lewis, EPA Removal Counsel - OES

Cheryl O'Halloran, EPA CERCLIS Coordinator - OSRR

William Hegener, Director, Oil and Chemical Spill Response Division

Rosanne Stovola, Site Coordinator, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Andrew Raddant, Environmental Officer, U.S. Department of the Interior

Ken Finkelstein, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

John Carlson, Contracts Management - HBS

#### SUMMARY OF GENERIC SCOPE OF WORK

This summary of the Generic Scope of Work is provided for informational purposes only. More detailed provisions will be set forth in the site-specific Scope of Work. Provisions may vary from site to site.

When EPA determines that a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) has the ability to promptly and properly prevent, mitigate, or eliminate the threats posed by hazardous substances at the Site, EPA may issue an Administrative Order (Order) to such party (the Respondent) with an attached Scope of Work (SOW). The Order and SOW, among other things, compel the Respondent to develop a plan to clean the Site. The components of the plan (also called a "deliverable") must be submitted to EPA for approval before implementation. Detailed instructions for generating each component shall be provided in the SOW. The plan shall consist of the components listed below.

- 1) Site Security The Respondent shall provide on-site security service. Site security shall be maintained until EPA determines the threats posed by conditions at the Site are eliminated or substantially mitigated.
- 2) Notification of Contractor Selection The Respondent shall notify EPA of the proposed cleanup contractor selected to perform work required under the Order.
- 3) Site-Specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP) The Respondent shall develop and implement a HASP for all activities to be conducted at the Site. The HASP shall be developed to protect all onsite personnel and must comply with all applicable health and safety regulations.
- 4) Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) The Respondent shall develop a QAP to be utilized in conducting all field and laboratory analysis. The QAP shall ensure that analytical results generated are of known quality.
- 5) Site Assessment Plan (SAP) The Respondent shall develop a SAP specifying the overall strategy of the field investigative work necessary to characterize site contamination.
- 6) Site Assessment A Site Assessment shall be conducted following EPA approval of the SAP.
- 7) Site Assessment Report and Cleanup Plan (SAR/CP) Following completion of the Site Assessment, the Respondent shall develop a SAR/CP that summarizes the Site Assessment and proposes cleanup methods necessary to substantially mitigate and/or eliminate the threats posed by hazardous substances present at the Site.
- 8) Site Cleanup The Site Cleanup shall be conducted according to the EPA approved Cleanup Plan.
- 9) Completion of Work Report (CWR) Upon completion of the Site Cleanup, the Respondent shall submit a CWR summarizing the work performed under the Order and SOW and outlining any remaining contamination.

At any time prior to or after the completion of the work specified in this SOW, EPA may determine that additional tasks are necessary in order to achieve the objectives of the Order, the SOW and CERCLA.

# **Consent for Access to Property**

Site Name:

**EPAC Superfund Site** 

Site Address:

730 North Main Street

Waterbury, New Haven County, Connecticut

(Parcel No. 0237-0166-0024)

I consent to the officers, employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors, consultants, and other authorized representatives of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") entering and having continued access to the above-referenced property for the following purposes:

- Removal of asbestos from the boiler and that which is intermingled with debris.
- Removal of PCB-contaminated oil from transformers, capacitors and containers.
- Locating, extracting, and over-packing drums containing hazardous substances.
- Sampling any solids or liquids stored or disposed of on-site.
- Shipping asbestos, oils, drums and contaminated soils off-site for disposal at approved off-site disposal facilities.
- Other field activities necessary to complete these response actions.
- Reviewing and copying any documentation found on-site regarding materials including hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, or hazardous waste that were generated, treated, stored or disposed of at the Site.

I realize that these actions by EPA are undertaken pursuant to EPA's response and enforcement authorities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §9601 et seq and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. §6901 et seq.

I give this written permission voluntarily with knowledge of my right to refuse without threats or promise of any kind.

Signature of Property Owner or	Date
Owner's Authorized Representative	
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Title:	_
Address:	
Telephone Number:	

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PS Form <b>3811</b> , December 1994 1025	X Edward A. BORGIDA	6. Signature: (Addressee or Agent)	Course A of Merches	5. Receiped By: (Print Name)				Waterbury CT 06704	730 North Main St	c/o David Holland Registered Agent Service Type	Waterbury Realty LLC	3. Article Addressed to:	<ul> <li>I he Heturn Heceipt will show to whom the article was delivered and the date delivered.</li> </ul>	Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the article number	Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not	■ Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so that we can return this	<ul> <li>Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.</li> <li>Complete items 3, 4a, and 4b.</li> </ul>	SENDER:
02595-98-B-0229 Domestic Return Receipt			and fee is paid)	8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested	6-12-03	7. Date of Delivery	Return Receipt for Merchandise	☐ Express Mail ☐ Insured	☐ Registered	At. Service Type	70011140000065918069	4a. Article Number	Consult postmaster for fee.	e number. 2.   Restricted Delivery	does not 1. Addressee's Address	can return this extra fee):	following services (for an	l also wish to receive the
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